2013

Drinking Water Quality REPORT

OUR FUTURE
IS CLEAR
LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO

CITY OF LAS VEGAS' REPORT ON THE WATER WE DRINK

Important Information About Your Drinking Water

WHAT IS THIS REPORT?

We are pleased to present the Year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by the regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of 2013's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

WHAT WE DO

The Utilities Department provides adequate, reliable and high quality water, sewer, natural gas and solid waste services in an open, responsible, environmentally sound manner at the lowest practical cost.

The City of Las Vegas Water System has approximately 6900 residential and commercial accounts.

As mandated by the Safe Drinking Water Act, this Consumer Confidence Report informs all City water users on our water sources, results of water tests and other important information.

YOUR WATER IS SAFE

Our Water Exceeds Drinking Water Standards and is safe to drink.

Last year we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants and only 9 were above detection levels. Flushing the distribution system reduced the level of those contaminants below the level EPA allows. Disinfection By-Products average over the entire year were below Maximum Contaminant Level.

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

Our water source is primarily surface water drawn from the Gallinas River and stored in Peterson and Bradner Reservoirs as well as Storrie Lake. Groundwater is utilized from the City of Las Vegas' Taylor Well Field.

ESPAÑOL

Este Informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su aqua potable. Por favor lea este informe o comuniquese con alguien que pueda traducer la informacion.

TIP Take short showers. A 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water; a bath uses up to 50 gallons.

Is My Water Safe?

WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY DRINKING WATER?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Examples include microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR LEAD

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from minerals and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Las Vegas is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure to lead is available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791, or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AND ITS AVAILABILITY

A Source Water Assessment has been performed by the New Mexico Environment Department. That information is available to the consumer upon request at NMED (877) 654-8720

City utility customers can pick up FREE low flow water saving kits at 905 12th Street. They are easy to install and can save up to 750 gallons a month.

750

Water Quality Table

DESCRIPTION

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems .The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in out drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of the data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions on the opposite page.

$100

The City offers up to a $100 rebate on 1.28gpf high efficiency toilets to residential customers and FREE 1.28gpf high efficiency toilets to income qualifying customers.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT: 2013 DRINKING WATER QUALITY DATA

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	Your Water	Range	
				Low	High
Disinfection & Disinfection By-Products (There is convincing evidence tha					
Chlorine	**4**	**4**	**0.4**	**0.3**	**0.4**
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	N/A	60	29	15	
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	N/A	80	55	21	
Inorganic C					
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.055	0.055	
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.4	0.35	
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	10	10	1	0	1.3
Sodium (optional) (ppm)	N/A	MPL	10	10	
Microbiologica					
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	1	0.552	N/A	
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	0.3	99%	N/A	
Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and					
Total Organic Carbon: The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requiremen					
Radioactive					
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	6.4	4	
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	3.7	3.7	
Inorganic C					

Coliform Bacteria				
Maximum Contaminant Goal Level	Ttl Coliform Max Contaminant Level	Highest # of Positive	Fecal or E. Coli Lvl	Ttl # of E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples
0	1 positive monthly sample	5		0

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.11	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	2.7	

Violations Table

Total Coliform

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present.

Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MCL (TCR), Monthly	8/1/13	8/31/13	Total Coliform bacteria were found in our dr

IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level – the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

TT: Treatment technique – a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

AL: Action Level – the concentration of a contaminant which, I exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal – the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MNR: Monitored Not Regulated

MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

	Sample		Typical Source
	Date	Violation	
t addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial population)			
4	**2013**	**No**	
47	2013	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
108	2013	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
ontaminants			
0.055	2013	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
0.35	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
3	2013	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
10	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
l Contaminants			
N/A	2013	No	Soil Runoff
N/A	2013	No	Soil Runoff
the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.			
ts set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.			
Contaminants			
6.4	2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits
3.7	2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits
ontaminants			
	2013		
	2013	Yes	Naturally present in the environment.

	# Samples exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
2011	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
2011	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

rinking water during the period indicated in enough samples to violate a standard.

UNIT DESCRIPTION

ug/L: number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water

ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is the measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of effectiveness of our filtration system.

NA: not applicable

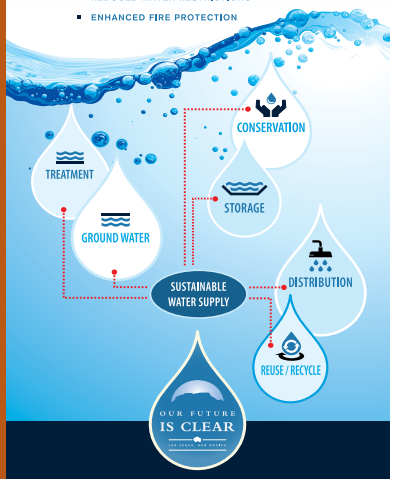
ND: not detected

NR: monitoring not required, but recommended.

CITY OF **LAS VEGAS**
WATER ENHANCEMENT PROJECT
ensuring a sustainable water supply for our community

BENEFITS OF *Sustainable Water*

- BETTER QUALITY AND TASTE
- BEAUTIFICATION OF HOMES AND COMMUNITY
- REDUCED WATER RESTRICTIONS
- ENHANCED FIRE PROTECTION



UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
905 12th Street | Las Vegas, NM 87701 | 505.454.3832

OUR FUTURE IS CLEAR

CONSERVATION The first step to ensure a sustainable water supply is to use existing water conservatively. There are many ways to decrease water consumption and it's easy for each of us to do our part.

STORAGE The City's current water storage system does not have the ability to capture all the water that is available to us. The water enhancement program calls for increasing our water storage capacity.

TREATMENT The City is working to purify diverted and captured water to make it suitable for drinking and other practical uses.

GROUND WATER Las Vegas has been pumping water from the Taylor Well Field since its construction in the 1950's. To ensure an adequate supply of ground water, the City will tap new wells to make alternative sources available.

DISTRIBUTION Our current distribution system of water pipes is outdated and inadequate. The City is laying new pipes to provide redundant routing to maximize water pressure to minimize water outages.

REUSE / RECYCLE Water that has been used doesn't have to be wasted. The City is developing systems to recycle and reuse water to enhance the beauty of our community.

www.lasvegasnm.gov
(505)454-3832

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorder, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The EPA and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

2013 VIOLATION INFORMATION

Violation: The City of Las Vegas took twenty samples for coliform bacteria during August 2013. Three of those samples showed the presence of coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than one of our samples per month may do so. Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. Coliform are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliform were found in more samples than allowed and this is a warning of potential problems.

Usually, coliform are a sign that there could be a problem with the treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow- up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or E. coli, are present. We did not find any of these bacteria in our subsequent testing. If we had, we would have notified you immediately. These issues have since been corrected. The City is compliant with regulations.

OUR FUTURE IS CLEAR

For more information about **Our Future is Clear—Water Enhancement Program**, or to schedule a presentation by our staff with your business or organization on how the City is developing a long-term, sustainable water supply, please contact the City of Las Vegas Utilities Department at (505) 452-3832.

TIP Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!

CLEAN WATER
healthy life

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

The Las Vegas City Council meets regularly. Information on meeting dates is available through the City Clerk's Office at (505) 454-1401.

City utility customers can pick up FREE low flow water saving kits at 905 12th street. They are easy to install and can save up to 750 gallons a month.

The City offers up to a $100 rebate on 1.28gpf high efficiency toilets to residential customers and FREE 1.28gpf high efficiency toilets to income qualifying residential customers.

The City offers rain barrels to customers at $58 each. Also available are 250 gallon water tanks for $95. Available at 905 12th Street.

For more information on Las Vegas' conservation programs please feel free to contact the city's conservation specialist at (505) 454-3832.

THANK YOU!

The City of Las Vegas' Water Department personnel would like to thank the community for their efforts to conserve water. Thank you for your continued support in conserving our precious resource.

KENNETH L. GARCIA, Utilities Director

DON W. COLE, Water Systems Manager

RAMON VIALPANDO, Water Treatment Plant Manager

BERNADETTE GOLD, Water Quality Technician

JAMES PEREA, Water Operator 3

MATT TAFOYA, Water Operator 4

DOMINIC MARES, Water Operator 1

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Don W. Cole

Water System Manager

City of Las Vegas

905 12th Street

Las Vegas, NM

87701

(505) 426-3314

The City offers rain barrels to customers at $58 each. Also available are 250 gallon water tanks for $95. Available at 905 12th Street.

$58

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City of Las Vegas
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